

**Palatine, IL** – Today, Congresswoman Melissa Bean addressed over 50 Eighth District business leaders at Harper College where she hosted a small business forum, “*Doing Business in a Global Economy*”.

The Harper College Small Business Development Center collaborated with Bean on the event, which is the first in a series of business forums Bean will host this year. These events represent one of the ways Congresswoman Bean is extending her outreach to local businesses to continue to champion small business issues in Washington.

As a former business owner and as Chairwoman of the Small Business Committee's Subcommittee on Tax and Finance, Bean brought her unique insight to the issue of “doing business in a global economy” and addressed a range of issues, including competitiveness, workforce development issues and access to capital. Other panelists joining Bean were Patrick Hope from the U.S. Department of Commerce and Jason Speer who runs Quality Float Works, a local manufacturing company.

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